

VZCZCXYZ0011  
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHTC #1194/01 1461119  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
R 261119Z MAY 06  
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5832  
INFO RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1319

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 001194

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR PRM/ANE (L. BARTLETT)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OTRA](#) [NL](#)

SUBJECT: COUNTRY CLEARANCE GRANTED FOR LAWRENCE BARTLETT,  
PRM/ANE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, TO THE NETHERLANDS

REF: STATE 84601

11. Post warmly welcomes and grants country clearance to  
PRM/ANE Deputy Director Larry Bartlett for travel to The  
Netherlands May 31-June 1.

12. Control Officer will be Political Officer Ted Burkhalter.  
He can be reached at: Tel: (W) 31-70-310-2336, (H)  
31-70-324-1559, (M) 31-65-181-6873. Fax: (W) 31-70-310-2348.  
Unclass Email: burkhaltereb@state.gov. Please note: When  
dialing telephone/fax numbers within the Netherlands, replace  
country code 31 with a zero.

13. Per e-mail communications, all requested arrangements are  
being made.

POST ACCESS:

14. Post acknowledges receipt of security clearance  
information.

COMPUTER and ELECTRONICS USAGE:

15. Inter-agency security standards prohibit the introduction  
or use of non-USG owned computer hardware and software at all  
USG diplomatic facilities. Cell phones, palm pilots, radios  
and other convenience electronics are prohibited in all  
secure areas of the Mission.

16. Travelers who anticipate having special needs in terms of  
either access or computer usage should contact the RSO office  
before arriving at post.

SECURITY ADVISORY:

17. Post provides the following threat assessment for The  
Netherlands: On July 9, 2004, the Dutch government  
implemented heightened security measures in response to  
concerns of terrorist activity. U.S. citizens in the  
Netherlands are encouraged to monitor media reports, and are  
reminded to maintain a high level of vigilance and to take  
appropriate steps to increase their security awareness.

The U.S. Government remains deeply concerned about the  
heightened possibility of terrorist attacks against U.S.  
citizens and interests abroad. As noted in the Department of  
State's Worldwide Caution of April 29, 2004, terrorists do  
not distinguish between official and civilian targets. Such  
targets may include facilities where U.S. citizens and other  
foreigners congregate or visit, including residential areas,  
clubs, restaurants, places of worship, schools, hotels and  
public areas. U.S. citizens should remain in a heightened  
state of personal security awareness when attendance at such  
locations is unavoidable.

Terrorist actions may include, but are not limited to, suicide operations, hijackings, bombings or kidnappings. These may also involve commercial aircraft and maritime interests, and threats to include conventional weapons, such as explosive devices.

A concern for visitors is crime. Most crimes against official Americans are limited to pick-pocketing and luggage theft. Theft from automobiles and hotel rooms are not unknown. Recently, theft of laptop computers has increased, especially at Schiphol Airport and major train stations. The thieves operate in small groups that target travelers. They are determined and well practiced at distraction theft. Several official travelers have been victimized losing personal or unclassified government computers, valuable software and data. Travelers are reminded regulations require the use of the diplomatic pouch for shipment of classified equipment and information.

Streets can be walked in relative safety, but as in any U.S. urban area, caution should be exercised after dark in the more populated cities of The Hague, Amsterdam, and Rotterdam. Red-light districts and public transportation hubs are common locations for incidents of street crime.

For the latest security information, Americans living and traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs Internet web site at <http://travel.state.gov>, where the current Worldwide Cautions, Public Announcements, and Travel Warnings can be found. Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll free in the U.S., line at 1-317-472-2328. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday

(except U.S. federal holidays).  
ARNALL